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OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER 2015-02

The leadership of the Oklahoma Legislature and Executive Branch officials believe that Oklahoma must pursue better approaches for justice reform that are consistent with Oklahoma values, resources and common sense. According to all measures, Oklahoma has some of the highest incarceration rates in the country for men and women. This is unacceptable to the leadership of Oklahoma.

I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, by the authority vested in me pursuant to Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, and in cooperation with the leadership of the Oklahoma Legislature and the Attorney General, hereby establish the Oklahoma Justice Reform Steering Committee ("Steering Committee").

The purpose of the Steering Committee shall be to develop a comprehensive and cooperative Oklahoma plan for implementing justice reform that is specifically tailored to Oklahoma's security needs and fiscal realities, and that: defines the objectives that would best alleviate prison overcrowding and promote public safety; prioritizes these objectives after having considered economic feasibility and efficacy in safely reducing Oklahoma's prison population; identifies and analyzes the concrete legislative and executive actions required to achieve plan implementation; and works collaboratively with the relevant Oklahoma agencies, the Governor's office, and the Legislature in researching, formulating, and disseminating the plan.

The Steering Committee shall consist of six (6) members having significant oversight responsibility of Oklahoma's criminal justice system, who are to be appointed as follows: the Governor or designee, who shall serve as Chairperson; the Attorney General or designee; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or designee; the Speaker of the House of Representatives or designee; the Director of the Department of Corrections or designee; and the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, or designee.

The Steering Committee shall meet at such times and places as the Chairperson deems appropriate. Members shall serve without compensation. Administrative support for the Steering Committee, including personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of its duties and responsibilities, shall be provided by the Governor's Office.

All Executive departments, officers, agencies, and employees of this State shall cooperate with the Steering Committee in carrying out its duties and responsibilities, including providing any information, records, and reports to it as may be requested by the Chair.

The Steering Committee shall report its findings to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 31, 2016. This report shall include any recommendations approved by a majority of the members. This Steering Committee shall sunset upon issuance of its final report.

This Executive Order shall be distributed to the Secretary of State and each steering committee member.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 14th day of January, 2015.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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